Statement

District-wise no. of STD/ISD/PCOs cleared in Tamil Nadu during the last three years

Sl. No.	Name of the District	1999-2000		2000-2001		2001-2002	
		STD/ISD	Local PCO	STD/ISD	Local PCO	STD/ISD	Local PCO
1.	Kancheepuram	81	270	646	599	341	859
2.	Tiruvallur	28	116	201	257	120	369
3.	Coimbatore	874	302	901	425	602	315
4.	Cuddalore	15	169	247	464	541	1074
5.	Vilupuram	15	157	228	412	478	810
6.	Dharmapuri	0	0	777	277	297	339
7.	Erode	226	290	258	246	233	625
8.	Ramanathapuram	117	59	405	272	243	263
9.	Sivaganga	67	39	546	356	300	299
10.	Madurai	573	622	1153	608	578	634
11.	Theni	256	311	309	305	157	317
12.	Dindigul	278	465	491	456	392	471
13.	Kanyakumari	201	237	450	165	150	248
14.	Nilgiris	87	16	112	20	44	24
15.	Salem	401	273	726	609	319	898
16.	Namakkal	111	155	267	365	177	572
17.	Tiruchirappalli	232	327	589	402	356	562
18.	Karur	179	238	447	311	263	411
19.	Pudukkottai	118	159	299	209	179	279
20.	Perambalur	49	73	124	103	128	134
21.	Thanjavur	253	135	525	334	122	176
22.	Tiruvarur	23	40	197	97	68	139
23.	Nagapattinam	800	188	209	667	250	450
24.	Tirunelveli	85	275	385	411	192	603
25.	Tuticorin	258	62	295	367	226	238
26.	Vellore	270	623	350	360	510	245
27.	Tiruvannamalai	130	416	145	212	233	177
28.	Virudhunagar	80	431	269	127	134	125
29.	Chennai Metro	1209	7788	4328	9747	2055	8730

Change of telephone numbers

2997. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the reason for converting the telephone numbers in metro cities from seven to eight digits;

(b) what time-frame has been set up for this conversion;

(c) whether this change-over would generate more for additional lines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof for each of the metros?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) The seven digit telephone number has been converted into eight digit in metro cities to increase the number space to cater to future growth of metro areas, to reduce the need for frequent coordination between various operators and to make the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) national number length uniform throughout the country.

(b) No specific time frame has been set up.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) About six crores additional number space in each metro would be generated.

V.P.T. in Assam

2998. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages covered by the Village Public Telephone facility in Assam;

(b) the number of such villages in the State where the aforesaid facility is not available; and

(c) the number of such telephones proposed to be granted in the remaining villages of Assam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) In Assam 17,155 Villages have been provided with telecom facility upto 31.10.2002.

(b) 7530 villages are yet to be covered; and